

HBSE OPEN EXAM
PRACTICE QUESTION PAPER (2026-27)

CLASS: X

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

Time: 3 Hours

M.M.: 80

General Instructions: -

- (i) The Question Paper contains four sections – Reading Skill, Grammar, Writing Skill and Literature.
- (ii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION - A

5 Marks

(READING SKILL)

Q 1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (5)

Rabindranath Tagore is famous all over the world as a great poet and great social reformer. He devoted his life to poetry and religion. He was loved and admired by all. He was born on May 6, 1861 in Calcutta. He got his early education in Calcutta. He had keen interest in English literature.

At the age of sixteen, he composed some good poems. He went to England for further studies and returned to India to be recognized as a great poet. In 1913, he won the Nobel prize for his "Gitanjali". In 1901, he established the famous "Shantiniketan" and founded the "Vishwa Bharati" university which is an international education centre. Tagore can never be forgotten. In 1961, his centenary was celebrated with zeal and enthusiasm all over the country.

Questions:

1. In which city was Rabindranath Tagore born?

- a) Calcutta
- b) Jaipur
- c) Delhi
- d) Aligarh

2. Where did he go for further studies?

- a) America
- b) China
- c) England
- d) Japan

3. When did he establish the famous Shantiniketan?

- a) in 1901
- b) in 1902
- c) in 1903
- d) in 1904

4. What was the name of the international education centre founded by Tagore?

- a) Vishwa Bharati University
- b) Global University
- c) Sanskar University
- d) Bharat University

5. Which prize did he receive for his book 'Gitanjali'?

- a) The Booker Prize
- b) The Nobel Prize
- c) Both a and b
- d) Neither a nor b

Or

Trees give shade for the benefit of others, and while they themselves stand in the sun and endure the scorching heat, they produce the fruit by which others profit. The character of good men is like that of trees. What is the use of this perishable body if no use is made of it

for the benefit of mankind? Sandalwood, the more it is rubbed, the more scent does it yield. Sugarcane, the more it is peeled and cut up into pieces, the more juice does it produce.

The men who are noble at heart do not lose their qualities even in losing their life. What matters it whether men praise them or not. What difference does it make whether they die at this moment or whether their lives are prolonged? Happen what may, those who tread in the right path will not set foot in any other. Life itself is unprofitable to a man who does not live for others. To live for the mere sake of living one's life is to live the life of dogs and crows. Those who lay down their lives for the sake of others will assuredly dwell forever in a world of bliss.

Questions:

1. What do trees give for the benefit of others?

- a) shade
- b) fruits
- c) heat
- d) both a and b

2. The character of a good man is like that of _____.

- a) trees
- b) sandalwood
- c) sugarcane
- d) all of these

3. What kind of men do not lose their qualities even in losing their life?

- a) noble-hearted people
- b) rich people
- c) ambitious people
- d) all of these

4. For what type of a man, life is unprofitable?

- a) A man who does not live for others.
- b) A man who does not give money to others.
- c) A man who does not praise others.
- d) both b and c

5. What title will be suitable for the passage?

- a) Character of a Good Man
- b) Qualities of Trees
- c) Unprofitable Life
- d) All of These

Section: B

(Grammar)

9 marks

Q 2) Attempt any nine sentences from the given items.

(9 X 1 =9)

a. Choose the correct **form of verb** from the given choices.

1 _____ you not _____ (take) your breakfast yet?

- A. did not take
- B. have not taken
- C. are you not taking
- D. None of these

2. It _____ (hail) outside for half an hour.

- A. was hailing
- B. is hailing
- C. have been hailing
- D. has been hailing

b. Choose the correct **article from the given choices.**

3. He bought _____alsatian dog.

A. the

B. a

C. an

D. No article

4. _____ Bible gives me a lot of peace and wisdom.

A. No article

B. The

C.A

D. An

c. Choose the correct **punctuated sentence.**

5. The ramayana is the holy book of the hindus

A. The Ramayana is the holy book of the Hindus?

B. The Ramayana is the holy book of the hindus.

C. the Ramayana is the holy book of the Hindus.

D. The Ramayana is the holy book of the Hindus.

6. leela said have you any small bangles.

A. leela said, "Have you any small bangles?

B. Leela said, "Have you any small bangles?"

C. Leela said, "Have you any small bangles."

D. Leela said, "Have you any small bangles"?

d. Choose the correct **modal from the given choices.**

7. He_____ dance for hours in his childhood.

- A. could
- B. can
- C. need
- D. will

8. He _____ rather break than stoop.

- A. should
- B. would
- C. can
- D. must

e. Choose the sentence showing correct indirect speech from the given choices:

9. Rohit has said, "I cannot displease my friend."

- A. Rohit has said that I cannot displease my friend.
- B. Rohit has said that he could not displease his friend.
- C. Rohit has said that he cannot displease his friend.
- D. Rohit has said that he could not displease my friend.

10. He said to her. "Do you want to go home?"

- A. He asked her if she wanted to go home.
- B. He asked her if she wants to go home.
- C. He told her that she wanted to go home.
- D. He asked her does she want to go home.

f. Choose the correct **non-finite** from the given choices.

11. This medicine is pleasant _____(take).

- A. to take
- B. taking

- C. take
- D. having taken

12. Raman is fond of _____(play) cricket.

- A. to play
- B. playing
- C. play
- D. having played

SECTION - C

(WRITING SKILL)

(5 Marks)

Q3. Attempt **any one** of the following topics:

Write a letter to your friend congratulating him on his success in the examination.

Or

You are Kamal/ Kamala, a student of Vohra Public School, Faridabad, Haryana. The toilets of your school are very dirty. Write an application to your principal drawing his attention and pointing out the foul smell emitting out of the toilets.

Q4. Attempt **any one** of the following topics:

Write a story on the topic 'Honesty is the Best Policy' with the help of the given outline:

Once a woodcutter... cutting a tree... axe fell into the water... God appeared... golden woodcutter refused... silver axe.. iron axe... God happy... moral

Or

Write a paragraph on the following topic:

'My Favourite Book'

Q5) Attempt **any one** of the following:

Suppose you are Dr. Sahil, MD. You are looking for an independent house in Ghaziabad on a reasonable rent for your residence- cum-clinic. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in The Hindustan Times, New Delhi.

Or

You are Neha, a student of 10th class. You attended an NSS camp recently. Write a report in about 40 words for your school magazine about the same

Section-D

(Literature)

(51 Marks)

Q6) Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (5 Marks)

I'm not so worried about my girlfriends and myself. We'll make it. The only subject I'm not sure about is maths. Anyway, all we can do is wait. Until then, we keep telling each other not to lose heart.

I get along pretty well with all my teachers. There are nine of them, seven men and two women. Mr Keesing, the old fogey who teaches maths, was annoyed with me for ages because I talked so much. After several warnings, he assigned me extra homework. An essay on the subject, 'A Chatterbox'.

Questions :

(i) Name the chapter from which the above extract has been taken.

(a) A Letter to God

(b) From The Diary of Anne Frank

(c) Madam Rides The Bus

(d) The Proposal

(ii) Name the author of this chapter.

- (a) Anne Frank
- (b) Vallikkannan
- (c) Anton Chekov
- (d) G.L. Fuentes

(iii) For which subject was she not sure?

- (a) Maths
- (b) Hindi
- (c) English
- (d) Science

(iv) How many teachers were there in her school?

- (a) 7
- (b) 8
- (c) 9
- (d) 10

(v) Who was Mr. Keesing?

- (a) Anne's English teacher
- (b) Anne's Maths teacher
- (c) Anne's father
- (d) Anne's friend

OR

The conductor was a jolly sort, fond of joking. "Oh, please don't be angry with me, my fine madam," he said. "Here, have a seat right up there in front. Everybody move aside please—make way for madam." It was the slack time of day, and there were only six or seven

passengers on the bus. They were all looking at Valli and laughing with the conductor. Valli was overcome with shyness. Avoiding everyone's eyes, she walked quickly to an empty seat and sat down. "May we start now, madam?" the conductor asked, smiling. Then he blew his whistle twice, and the bus moved forward with a roar. It was a new bus, its outside painted a gleaming white with some green stripes along the sides. Inside, the overhead bars shone like silver. Directly in front of Valli, above the windshield, there was a beautiful clock. The seats were soft and luxurious.

Questions :

(i) Name the chapter from which the above extract has been taken.

- (a) Madam Rides The Bus
- (b) A Letter To God
- (c) The Sermon At Benaras
- (d) The Proposal

(ii) Name the author of this chapter.

- (a) Vallikkannan
- (b) Anton Chekov
- (c) Anne Frank
- (d) Gavin Maxwell

(iii) By what name did the conductor call Valli?

- (a) Child
- (b) Madam
- (c) Baby
- (d) Aunty

(iv) How were the seats of the bus?

- (a) Soft
- (b) Luxurious

(c) Both a and b

(d) None

(v) What type of a man was the bus conductor?

(a) Jolly

(b) Wise

(c) Fun loving

(d) All of the above

Q7) Attempt **any three** of the following questions in about 10-15 words each. (3 X 2 = 6)

(i) To whom did Lencho write a letter and why? (A Letter to God)

(ii) How does Mandela define courage? (Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom)

(iii) Why was the young seagull afraid of flying? (His First Flight)

(iv) Who was Mij? (Mijbil the Otter)

(v) How old were Lomov and Natalaya? (The Proposal)

Q8) Attempt **any two** of the following questions in about 30-40 words each. (2 X 3 = 6)

(i) Why did Lencho call the raindrops new coins? (A Letter to God)

(ii) Why did the narrator act like an obedient child? (The Black Aeroplane)

(iii) What was the place of a baker in the childhood of the writer? (A Baker from Goa)

(iv) Which sights moved Siddhartha Gautama to see the path of enlightenment? (The Sermon at Benares)

Q9. Attempt **any one** of the following questions: (1 X 5 =5)

Write a pen portrait of Anne Frank.

Or

What do you know about Coorg and its people?

Q10) Attempt **any one** of the given stanzas :

(5 Marks)

*Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued.*

Questions :

(i) From which poem has this stanza been taken?

- (a) A Tiger In The Zoo
- (b) Dust of Snow
- (c) Fire and Ice
- (d) Amanda

(ii) Name the poet.

- (a) John Keats
- (b) Robert Frost
- (c) Leslie Norris
- (d) Robin Klein

(iii) In what mood was the poet earlier?

- (a) Happy
- (b) Good
- (c) Pleasant
- (d) Sad

(iv) What was saved for the poet?

- (a) A crow
- (b) Some part of the day

- (c) Tree
- (d) Snow

(v) What is the rhyme scheme of the stanza?

- (a) aabb
- (b) abab
- (c) abba
- (d) None

OR

*The fog comes
on little cat feet.
It sits looking
over harbour and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.*

Questions :

(i) From which poem has this stanza been taken?

- (a) Fog
- (b) Amanda
- (c) The ball poem
- (d) The trees

(ii) Name the poet of this poem.

- (a) Carl Sandburg
- (b) Robert Frost
- (c) Adrienne Rich
- (d) Robin Klein

(iii) What is the fog compared to?

- (a) Dog
- (b) Cat
- (c) Monkey
- (d) Lion

(iv) How does the fog come?

- (a) Slowly
- (b) Silently
- (c) Both a and b
- (d) None of the above

(v) How are the feet of the cat described?

- (a) Huge
- (b) Clever
- (c) Little
- (d) All of the above

Q11) Attempt **any two** of the following questions in about 10-15 words each. (2 X 2 = 4)

- (i) How does the caged tiger behave?
- (ii) What is the mood of the boy who has lost his ball?
- (iii) What does Amanda want to become in her dreams?
- (iv) Which colour does the lady want to give to her hair?

Q12) Attempt **any one** of the following questions in about 30-40 words. (3 Marks)

- (i) What is the central idea of the poem 'The Ball Poem' ?
- (ii) Describe the four pets of Belinda. (The Tale of Custard the Dragon)

Q13) Attempt **any two** of the following questions about 10-15 words each. (2 X 2 = 4)

- (i) Who was Mrs Pumphrey and what was the name of her dog? (A Triumph of Surgery)
- (ii) Who was Ausable? (The Midnight Visitor)
- (iii) What did Griffin do to the house of his landlord? (Footprints without Feet)
- (iv) Which book did Richard Ebright's mother give to him to ignite his interest in butterflies?
(The Making of a Scientist)

Q14) Attempt **any two** of the following questions in about 30-40 words each. (2 X 3 = 6)

- (i) Why did the thief boy want to become an educated man? (The Thief's Story)
- (ii) Why were the two boys in London surprised and fascinated? (Footprints without Feet)
- (iii) What did Matilda and her husband do when they found the necklace missing? (The Necklace)
- (iv) Who are in the library on the earth? What are they doing there? (The Book that Saved the Earth)

Q15) Attempt **any one** of the following questions: (5 Marks)

Who is the real culprit in the story 'A Question of Trust'?

OR

How did the necklace change the life of Matilda? (The Necklace)